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TRANSMITTAL FORM <small>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</small>	Application Number	09/834,389	
	Filing Date	April 13, 2001	
	First Named Inventor	Jerrold Franklin	
	Art Unit	1745	
	Examiner Name	Gregg Cantelmo	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	14	Attorney Docket Number	109.04

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT		
Firm or Individual name	Daniel P. Maguire	
Signature	<i>Daniel P. Maguire</i>	
Date	July 6, 2004	

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of Jerrold Franklin, *et al.* }

Application No.: 09/834,389 }

Filed: April 13, 2001 }

For: Integrated and Modular BSP/MEA
Manifold Plates for Fuel Cell Use }

Date: July 6, 2004

Group Art Unit: 1745

Examiner: Greg Cantelmo

Attorney Ref. No.: 109.04

*Response to Office Action with After-Final Amendments*Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir or Madam:

In response to the office action dated April 5, 2005, the applicants respectfully submit the following remarks and amendments.

Remarks

The applicants have now amended the claims to overcome the two obstacles to patentability that the examiner has identified.

First, the applicants have removed the statement in their claims that the bipolar separator plate (BSP) overlaps " a substantial portion of said flexible membrane electrode [MEA] assembly". The examiner had found that this limitation lacked support, in violation of 35 USC § 112, since the original specification did not depict the BSP overlapping the MEA. Without conceding the § 112 rejection, the applicants have amended their claims to remove this requirement.